

TO
A

Dr. Clanton
Dr. Cook
Dr. Gunner
Dr. Somers

FROM
DE

Executive Director
Health Protection Branch

SUBJECT
OBJET

"Environmental Sensitivity"

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION / DE SÉCURITÉ

OUR FILE - N. / RÉFÉRENCE

Km 21433

YOUR FILE - V / RÉFÉRENCE

DATE

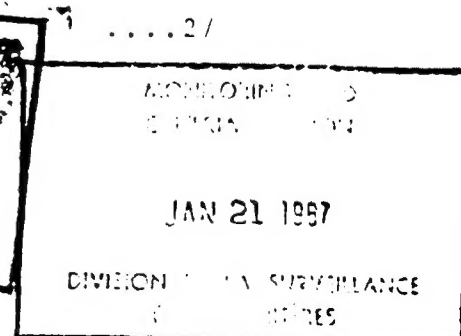
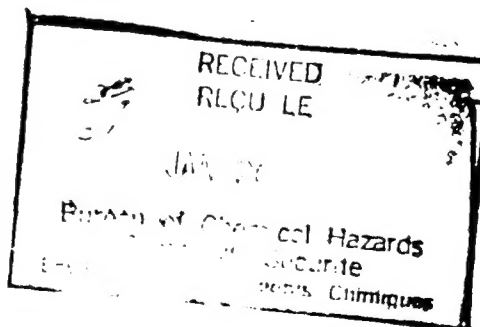
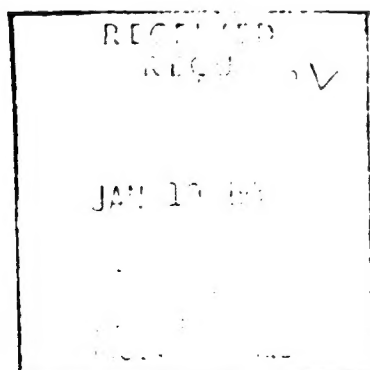
January 16, 1987

Two reports to the Ontario Government were released recently: the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Environmental Hypersensitivities, under the chairmanship of Judge G.M. Thomson (August, 1985) and the report of the Advisory Panel on Environmental Hypersensitivity, chaired by Dr. Barry Zimmerman.

In both cases, some recommendations concerned areas of federal responsibility, and more specifically, responsibilities of this Branch. For example, recommendations regarding more extensive labelling drugs and foods are included. While I am unaware that specific questions regarding these recommendations have been directed to us to date, such questions seem likely.

Correspondence continues to be directed to the Minister on this subject from a variety of sources. A number of the Minister's colleagues have also expressed considerable interest in advice from this Department regarding representations on environmental hypersensitivity.

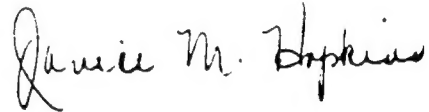
The Environmental Health Directorate has responded to a number of enquiries, as chemicals in general were usually involved. However, a number of the issues now being raised are outside the mandate of this Directorate.



I would suggest, therefore, that we establish a Branch working party under the chairmanship of the LCDC representative and composed of representatives of the other three Directorates, to prepare a Branch response on this subject. The response should address, in particular, the recommendations in the Thomson and Zimmerman reports which are relevant to HPB responsibilities. The working party might also be asked to review the principles on which the recent sulphite announcement was based to determine whether they can be applied to other situations.

The working party could be asked to report within two months of its establishment.

If you concur with this approach, would you please advise me of your nominee. I would also appreciate your views on whether Health Services and Promotion Branch should be invited to join this working party.



J.M. Hopkins

cc: Dr. Liston